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Revere added to Superfund roster

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A Nockamixon Township site has been added to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund list for cleanup.

The EPA announced Tuesday the former Revere Chemical Company site, located at Route 611, is among 13 hazardous waste sites in Pennsylvania that have been placed on Superfund's national priority list.

But Nancy Sicaclau, a spokesperson for EPA's Mid-Atlantic Region in Philadelphia, said "it won't be for a while" until the contaminants at the Revere site, now owned by Harbucks, Inc., a suburban Baltimore, Md. company, are removed. First, she said, soil, water, residential well and air tests must be done at the site

to ascertain the type and extent of pollution. The tests will take "at least a year," she said.

Raymond Germann, EPA spokesman, said "the primary 'we see' posed by the site 'is by contamination of the water supply.' But he added, "We haven't actually seen any 'contamination' of drinking wells" serving 7500 residents in a three-mile radius.

Germann said the EPA is negotiating with six "potentially responsible parties" which may have disposed of wastes at the site to pay for the cleanup.

The companies Germann identified as potential polluters are Harbucks, Inc.; Carpenter Technology Corporation, Reading; International Business Machines, White Plains, N.Y.; American Telephone and Telegraph, Berkley Heights, N.J.; East Falls Corporation, Frazier; and Circuit Foil Corporation, Palantine, Ill.

"We hope we will be able to convince them to fund the cleanup," German said. He added Superfund money will be used if the companies refuse to fund the cleanup.

The site, Germann said, has lagoons filled with water contaminated by copper sulfate, sulfuric acid and ammonia. In 1984 the EPA

found lead, beryllium, chromium and copper in the site's groundwater.

The Nockamixon site has been the target of past cleanup action by both state and federal government.

In 1984, the EPA spent \$125,000 of Superfund money for an emergency site evaluation and cleanup. In 1969 the state Department of Environmental Resources spent \$407,539 to clean up pools of contaminated water which had formed at the site.

Germann said project officer for EPA in charge of Revere, said the average cost of cleaning up a site such as Revere ranges \$500,000-\$800,000.

Haycock Township Supervisor John Budd said the site was closed in 1971 by the State Department of Environmental Resources after it had been used for copper reclamation.

Nockamixon Township in 1985 denied a request by Harbucks owners Peter Parker and Larry G. Stancill to put a quarry on the site. Township residents opposed their request for a curative amendment to the township zoning ordinance, which would have allowed the quarry on the 111-acre tract, because of concerns that contaminants would seep into wells.

A three-judge Bucks County Court panel heard an appeal of the decision

last year but has not yet handed down a decision.

The Superfund list now contains 911 sites nationally which are slated for cleanup. 99 of the sites were approved Tuesday.

New Jersey ranks first in the nation for Superfund sites with 100. New York has 63 and Pennsylvania 61.

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Congress established Superfund in 1980 with a \$5-billion authorization. Congress reauthorized Superfund in October, with an additional \$8.5-billion.

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